New Zealand is taking strong action to contain the spread of Covid-19 and announced measures on 16 March, which require all travelers to New Zealand, with the exception of travelers from specific island countries, to self-isolate for a period of 14 days upon their arrival. This action will help to protect New Zealanders from this pandemic.

However, even as we take action to preserve the health of our nation, New Zealand is taking steps to ensure the continued flow of goods across our borders. To keep sea freight routes open these border measures do not apply to cargo ships or marine crew. We are keeping the border open for international supplies and our customs officers continue to be available to facilitate the timely movement of goods across our border.

The leadership of the WCO at this time is critical in order to mitigate the impacts on supply chains, and to ensure that critical supplies for medical, humanitarian and subsistence needs continue to be available throughout the global community.